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(54) SWALLOW TYPE ENDOSCOPIC DEVICE

(57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To facilitate the introduction into a tubular cavity and to lessen the pain on a testee by disposing rigid parts including illumination means and observation means, flexible parts which are curvable along the curving of a celom and curving parts which are more flexible than the flexible parts into an endoscope of a bar-like body and providing both sides with the curving parts with the flexible parts in-between.

SOLUTION: An endoscope body has, successively from its front end, the first rigid part 12, a first curvilinear drive part 13, the flexible part 14, a second curvilinear drive part 15, the second flexible part 16, a third curvilinear drive part 17 and the second rigid part 18 and is covered with an outer cover elastic material over the entire part. The observation means 19, illumination windows and air feed ports 21 are disposed in the first and second rigid parts 12 and 18. Illumination light is supplied to the illumination windows and the image of a subject is formed on the image pickup plane of a CCD 19b. The image signal from the CCD 19b is amplified in an amplifier circuit 14a and is transmitted from a signal reception/transmission means 14b. A selective

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heating means is manipulated by a manipulation signal transmitted from an extracorporeal signal transmission section to curve the first or third curvilinear drive part 13 or 17.

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